



GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION 5D

Advisory Neighborhood Commission 5D
371 Morse St. NE
Washington, D.C. 20002

Christopher Dyer
Community Engagement Manager
Department of Parks and Recreation
1275 1st Street NE
Washington, D.C. 20002

Re: Prioritizing construction of a playground in Carver-Langston

Dear Mr. Dyer,

We are writing on behalf of residents in Carver-Langston, to affirm the Department of Parks and Recreation's (DPR) decision to classify Carver-Langston as a neighborhood to study for potential park expansion within the recently released draft Ready2Play Parks and Recreation Master Plan¹. As you noted in recent correspondence with Commissioner Reid May (5D08), DPR's goal is to target at least two priority neighborhoods annually for assessment beginning in FY24 and ANC 5D strongly recommends that DPR select Carver-Langston for one of these initial neighborhood studies.

Moreover, residents in Carver-Langston have identified a prospective playground site, at the corner of 19th St NE and L St NE (SSL 4470 0807²). In the course of extensive community outreach, these residents and members of ANC 5D have affirmed significant community support for the possibility of developing a playground at this location.

As you know, most of Carver-Langston is outside of DPR's target half-mile walkshed for a playground space.³ Meanwhile, the portions of the neighborhood which are located within one half mile of a playground are still separated from the space by two minor arterial roadways⁴ that are difficult to cross on foot. SSL 4470 0807 is located in the heart of Carver-Langston, proximate to numerous residential blocks and across from the Carver Terrace housing complex. Due to its location, the property represents an ideal playground space. The lot is approximately 1,800 sq. ft in size and triangular in shape, is currently owned by the District of Columbia, and is currently vacant outside of one tree in the southeastern most corner. The lot is commonly occupied by illegally parked cars, along with frequent litter and occasional dumping. Given the ideal location of this city-owned property, its current status as neglected space, and the lack of accessible park land in Carver-Langston, ANC 5D strongly recommends that DPR repurpose this space as a playground for

¹ <https://ready2playdc.konveio.com/ready2play-parks-and-recreation-master-plan#page=57>

² District of Columbia Geographic Information System: <http://bit.ly/3YVVLHL>.

³ <https://ready2playdc.konveio.com/ready2play-parks-and-recreation-master-plan#page=31>

⁴ https://ddot.dc.gov/sites/default/files/dc/sites/ddot/publication/attachments/FunctionalClass_2016.pdf

neighborhood residents.

This letter was presented at a duly noticed public meeting on February 13, 2023. ANC 5D comprises 8 commissioners (with 1 vacancy), such that 5 commissioners constitute a quorum. With 8 commissioners present, ANC 5D voted 7 yea, 1 nay, and 0 abstain.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Salv Saucedo-Guzman". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Salv" and last name "Saucedo-Guzman" clearly distinguishable.

Comm. Salvador Saucedo-Guzman
Chair, ANC 5D

cc:

The Honorable Zachary Parker

The Honorable Kenyan McDuffie